

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 MMO-01
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-----056149 170813Z /17
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BU

SUBJECT: OVERFLIGHT REQUESTS

REF: RANGOON 329

1. UNIVERSAL WEATHER IS A US FIRM WHICH PROVIDES A
WORLD-WIDE FLIGHT PLANNING SERVICE TO ITS CUSTOMERS,
MOST OF WHOM ARE OPERATORS OF US REGISTERED NON-COMMERCIAL
NON-SCHEDULED (I.E. PRIVATE) AIRCRAFT. A REPRESENTATIVE
OF UNIVERSAL WEATHER CONTACTED DEPTOFF TO COMPLAIN THAT
THEY ARE UNABLE TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM THE GUB FOR
THEIR CUSTOMERS TO OVERFLY BURMA (VIA TAVOY) ENROUTE TO
BANGKOK. (FYI: UNIVERSAL WEATHER AVERAGES EIGHT BURMA
OVERFLIGHTS PER MONTH.)

2. THEY ARE PARTICULARLY UNSETTLED BECAUSE THEY FEEL
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THAT ONLY US REGISTERED AIRCRAFT ARE BEING SINGLED-OUT
FOR THIS TREATMENT (I.E. NO OVERFLIGHTS UNLESS REQUESTED,
BUT ALL REQUESTS GO UNANSWERED). WHEN SUGGESTED THEY
APPEAL TO EMB FOR ASSISTANCE, THEY INFORMED DEPTOFF
THEY HAD DONE SO, BUT TO NO AVAIL.

3. DEPTOFF ALSO LEARNED THAT UNIVERSAL WEATHER, IN

RESPONSE TO PAST GUB INDIFFERENCE OR INEFFICIENCY, OR BOTH, TO THEIR OVERFLIGHT REQUESTS, OBTAINED SOME KIND OF BLANKET OVERFLIGHT AUTHORIZATION SEVERAL YEARS AGO. THIS AUTHORIZATION ALLEGEDLY REQUIRED ONLY THE SUBMISSION OF A FLIGHT PLAN PRIOR TO THE AIRCRAFT'S OVERFLIGHT, BUT WAS APPLICABLE ONLY TO THOSE AIRCRAFT WHICH TRANSITED BURMESE AIRSPACE VIA TAVOY (SOUTHEAST BURMA). UNIVERSAL WEATHER SAID THEY HAD A LETTER WHICH DOCUMENTED THIS AUTHORIZATION. DEPTOFF REQUESTED A COPY, WHICH WILL ALSO BE SENT TO EMB.

4. IN THE MEANTIME, DEPTOFF SUGGESTED THEY CONTINUE TO SEND BURMA OVERFLIGHT REQUESTS TO DGCA AT ADDRESS PROVIDED IN FAA'S INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT INFORMATION MANUAL AND IF REPLY NOT FORTHCOMING AFTER A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME TO APPEAL TO EMB FOR ASSISTANCE. IF THIS PROCEDURE IS NOT SATISFACTORY, REQUEST EMB ADVISE. ALSO, EMB COMMENTS WILL BE APPRECIATED ON UNIVERSAL WEATHER'S ALLEGATIONS OF DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT OF US REGISTERED AIRCRAFT, BLANKET AUTHORIZATION FOR FLIGHTS WHICH OVERFLY BURMA VIA TAVOY, AND IF IT WOULD SERVE ANY PURPOSE TO REQUEST GUB DGCA BE MORE RESPONSIVE TO OVERFLIGHT REQUESTS. (FYI: FOR OVERFLIGHTS OF US BY NON-SCHEDULED, NON-COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, ONLY SUBMISSION OF A FLIGHT PLAN AND COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE FEDERAL AVIATION REGULATIONS WHILE WITHIN US AIRSPACE IS REQUIRED). LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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5. FYI: TELEX TO EMB WHICH UNIVERSAL WEATHER STATES HAS GONE UNANSWERED WAS SENT DEC. 12, 1977. IT CONCERNED OVERFLIGHT REQUEST FOR AN AIRCRAFT WITH THE REGISTRATION NUMBER (TAIL NUMBER) OF N515KA. A FOLLOW-UP TELEX WITH A 25 DOLLAR PREPAID REPLY WAS SENT TO EMB SEVERAL WEEKS LATER. BELIEVE N515KA'S OVERFLIGHT IS SCHEDULED FOR 21 FEB. VANCE

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